APPENDIX (Amended Material)

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. Apparatus comprising:

a first supply source of sterile air;

a supply source of sterilant, wherein the supply source of sterilant includes a spoon dipper apparatus;

an atomizing system producing an atomized sterilant from the mixing of the sterile air from the first supply source of sterile air with the sterilant;

a second supply source of a continuous hot sterile air for continuously providing the hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

a mechanism for applying the atomized sterilant on to a container; and

a third supply source of a hot sterile drying air for activating and drying the sterilant in the interior of the container, wherein the container is upright.

11. A method for sterilizing a container comprising:

providing a first supply of sterile air;

providing a supply of sterilant including providing a spoon dipper apparatus for measuring the quantity of the sterilant;

producing an atomized sterilant by mixing the first supply of sterile air with the sterilant;

providing a second supply of continuous hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

applying [the] a mixture of the continuous hot sterile air and the atomized sterilant to the container; and

supplying a third supply of hot sterile drying air for activating and drying the sterilant in the interior of the container, wherein the container is upright.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of providing a second source of continuous hot sterile air further includes providing a humidity control system for maintaining the humidity of the continuous hot sterile air.